

BLISWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the **Ordinary** meeting of **Blisworth Parish Council** held in Blisworth Village Hall on **Monday 3rd April 2023 at 7:30 pm.**

Present: Cllr Billing, Chair
 Cllr C Read MBE, Vice-Chair
 Cllr D Wilson
 Cllr B Brown
 Cllr M Field

Also present: Clerk: Angela Billing
 3 Members of public

		Action
1.	To receive apologies. Apologies received from Cllr Gardner, Cllr J Hawkins and District Councillor Cooper. The Council resolved to accept the apologies.	
2.	To receive declarations of interest under the Council's Code of Conduct related to business on the agenda. Councillors are reminded that if they have either a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest or other interest in any of the agenda items then they should declare the interest and withdraw from the debate or meeting as appropriate. None received.	
3.	To receive and approve for signature, the minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 6th March 2023. Approved.	
4.	To note any matters arising from the minutes not included on the agenda for report only. None noted.	
5.	Clerk's report circulated separately. Noted.	
6.	Review and agree plan for Civility and Respect Policy and Training. Agreed for all Councillors and Clerk to attend online training and to sign up to the Civility and Respect pledge.	All Councillors and Clerk
7.	Public Session: a. District Councillor Report. Circulated separately. b. Members of the public. (i) A member of the public asked about the situation regarding the recent closure of Courteenhall Road and when it would re-open. (ii) A representative from Blisworth Football Club shared plans and proposed costings for the Football Clubhouse renovations and asked if Blisworth Parish Council were in a position to provide some financial support towards the cost of the renovations. (iii) A representative from Blisworth Baptist Church shared the success of the Welcoming and Warm Room sessions at the Baptist Church and thanked the Blisworth Councillors and District Councillor for their support and volunteering to help run the sessions. It is hopeful that the initiative will be repeated next winter if required.	
8.	Response to issues raised in the public session. a) Councillor Cooper's report noted concerns relating to the subsidence occurring on Stoke Road, Blisworth. Resolved that the Clerk is to contact Highways again and Cllr Cooper to determine what information we can pass onto residents regarding the safety of the road and the proposed dates for works. Clerk to also highlight again to Highways the impact on Stoke Road due to the closure of Courteenhall Road	Clerk

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	<p>particularly with regard to the increasing volume of traffic and the increasing number of vehicles that contravene the 3-tonne weight-limit along Stoke Road. In order to mitigate further damage to the road, Clerk to request that Highways install temporary 3-tonne weight-limit signage as soon as possible at the Stoke Road/Knock Lane junction, Stoke Road/Shutlanger Road junction (outside of Stoke Bruerne village) and on the Blisworth Road/Stoke Road and Hyde Road (Roade) junction as there is no warning early on from that direction and trucks turning from Roade onto the Blisworth Road/Knock Lane will have trouble turning around when they reach Stoke Road.</p> <p>b) (i) The Council has been informed that Courteenhall Road will possibly remain closed until mid-April 2023.</p> <p>(ii) While the Council would like to support the Football Club financially, recognising its value to the local community, unfortunately there is a great demand on the Council's available funds for traffic calming initiatives. It was proposed that the Clerk is to write a letter of recommendation in support of the Football Club's funding request to the Football Association. The Football Club to resubmit their request in the light of feedback from the Football Association.</p> <p>(iii) The Councillors thanked the Blisworth Baptist Church team and volunteers for their work on the Welcoming and Warm Room sessions and for providing free use of their facilities for the Blisworth Parish Council surgeries.</p>	Clerk						
9.	<p>Planning and Development.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 30%;">Application & Date Comments Due</th> <th style="width: 30%;">Location</th> <th style="width: 40%;">Description</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>WNS/2023/0270/FUL</td> <td>Ancillary Building (The Shed) Blisworth Arm Blisworth NN7 3EF</td> <td>Change of use of general-purpose storage building to holiday let, first floor extension to create habitable space.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Clerk to submit a comment detailing Blisworth Parish Council's concern regarding the tight access to the site due to parked cars and the proposed height of the development being incongruous with the surrounding buildings in the Conservation Area.</p>	Application & Date Comments Due	Location	Description	WNS/2023/0270/FUL	Ancillary Building (The Shed) Blisworth Arm Blisworth NN7 3EF	Change of use of general-purpose storage building to holiday let, first floor extension to create habitable space.	Clerk
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10.	<p>Correspondence from social media: Update from Cllr Read. The total number of followers has increased by 6 residents to 230 people (69.8% of our followers are listed as women and 101 are listed as resident in Blisworth, the remainder listed in Northampton/Roade/Towcester). We have had a post reach of 3776 people (people who have our messages on their social media feeds) and a direct engagement (clicks) of 1390 people. This is a significant increase from last month. The top performing post in the period was the post concerning the update concerning the subsidence in Stoke Road.</p>							
11.	<p>Police & Neighbourhood Watch Scheme: Update from Cllr Read. Crime data reported, Public Order (1), Primal Damage and Arson (1), Vehicle Crime (1) and Violence and Sexual Offences (1). We have 67 members registered on the Neighbourhood alert scheme and no alerts have been issued for Blisworth village.</p>							
12.	<p>Report on data from SID/VAS devices: Update from Cllr Read. VAS unit in Stoke Road: In the period between 5 Mar and 21 Mar (17 days) there were 40,157 vehicle movements (2,362 per day) with an average speed of 30.1 mph and 85% of vehicles were travelling below 35 mph. This means that over 354 vehicles daily speed on Stoke Road adjacent the doctor's surgery and through the restricted residential area. The top</p>							

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	<p>rent from Blisworth Football Club will not be increased by way of supporting the Football Club.</p> <p>d. Closed Cemetery. Update from Cllr Billing. Cllr Billing to obtain further quotes to level the area near the steps (Pond Bank exit) at the Closed Cemetery.</p>	Clerk
19.	<p>Internal Control:</p> <p>a) Financial & Management Risk Assessment:</p> <p>i. To receive declarations of gifts/hospitality and review record of gifts/hospitality received by Councillors or the Clerk to date. None received.</p>	
20.	<p>Finance & Administration</p> <p>Banking Issues:</p> <p>a. Bank reconciliation to 03/04/2023. £66,590.39</p> <p>b. Discuss and agree next steps for proposed allocation of Reserve funds. Resolved to agree the draft proposal for allocation of reserve funds subject to consultation with residents in May 2023.</p> <p>c. Bank Mandates for NatWest accounts. Cllr B Brown and Cllr W Root are now signatories for the NatWest accounts.</p> <p>d. Skipton Savings Account. Skipton requested a copy of the agreed, signed, final March minutes ahead of opening an account.</p> <p>e. To note receipts and approve the following payments and any others that arrive after publication of the agenda: Following receipts received after publication of the agenda: Football Club's share of 2022-2023 Water Bill received: £609.60 WNC Grass Mowing Grant received: £771.88 Allotment Rent received: £5.00 Resolved to approve the following payments which arrived after publication of the agenda: CutCrew Ltd: £797.18 Gross, £132.86 VAT, £664.32 Net of VAT Northants CALC Ltd: £1,004.94 Gross, £53.20 VAT, £951.74 Net of VAT.</p>	Clerk

RECEIPTS			
Date	Payee	Detail	Amount
24/02/2023	NatWest	Lottery Allotment Fencing Grant	£8603.00*
28/02/2023	NatWest	Interest	£26.93*
			*BR Account
20/03/2023	NatWest	Water Bill 1 st Blisworth Scout	£304.80**
27/03/2023	NatWest	Water Bill Football Club	£609.60**
31/03/2023	NatWest	WNC Grass Mowing Grant	£771.88**
03/04/2023	NatWest	Allotment Fee	£5.00**
			**Current Account

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PAYMENTS

Invoice	PAYEE	PURPOSE	CHQ /DD	Total Amount Including VAT	VAT	Amount Excluding VAT
February 2023/0021	SSE	Electricity Supply 02.02.2023 - 01.03.2023	DD	£96.97	£4.61	£92.36
7317	B J Osborne	Barbara Osborne Business Services Payroll Services Jan 2023 - Mar 2023	3211	£67.50	£0.00	£67.50
Month 12	A Billing - Salary	Clerk's Salary March 2023	3212	£783.50	£0.00	£783.50
120PF003233662312	HMRC - Nat. Ins.	HMRC Nat. Ins. Employer Contributions March 2023 Salary	3213	£3.52	£0.00	£3.52
	A Billing - Expenses	Clerk's Expenses February 2023 (01.03.2023 - 31.03.2023)	3214	£26.85	£0.00	£26.85
	IONOS	Website Fee - April	DD	£6.00	£0.00	£6.00
	Waves	Water Supply - April	DD	£55.00	£0.00	£55.00
28026	Merland Copy & Print shop	Printing of Round & About April-May Issue	3215	£170.00	£0.00	£170.00
1489	CutCrew Ltd	Cut to: Area 2 x 2 & Area 1 x 2 April 2023	3216	797.18	132.86	664.32
2772*	Northants CALC Ltd	NCALC Subscription YE 2024 NCALC Membership Based on Electorate YE2024 & NALC Membership Based on Electorate YE2024 & Data Protection Officer Fee	3217	1,004.94	53.20	951.74
Totals				£3,011.46	£191.67	£2,819.79

*Where Invoice/Receipt received after agenda was published.

21.	Footpath (Stoke Road to Blisworth Tunnel Carpark): Resolve to agree to submit a request to KIER (Highways) to install a footpath on the canal side of Stoke Road to the tunnel carpark, as part of their works on Stoke Road. Agreed.	Clerk
22.	Annual Parish Meeting (of Blisworth village residents): Resolve to agree the date as Monday, 22nd May 2023. Discuss agenda and agree next steps. Resolved to agree the date of the Annual Parish Meeting (of Blisworth village residents) as Monday, 22nd May 2023. Resolved that Councillors will prepare information for the public to indicate their opinions around the following projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chicane in Stoke Road to calm traffic • Traffic-light operated pedestrian crossing on High Street (in addition to the School Crossing Patrol Officer). • Improvements to pavements/footways • Speeding Sign applications (including 20mph near the school, and 40 mph guidance signage beyond the 30 mph village boundaries) • Increased weight-limit guidance signage • Friendship bench • Char.gy electric car charging points 	All Councillors

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	Blisworth Baptist Church volunteered their facilities for the Annual Parish Meeting (of Blisworth village residents) on Monday, 22nd May 2023.	
23.	Councillors' reports and items for future agenda. Cllr Read: Char.gy electric car recharging points option to be added to May agenda. Cllr Wilson and Cllr Brown: Review Royal Oak application with West Northants Council as a Community Asset.	Clerk
24.	Council Surgery – Resolve to agree on a representative(s) from the Council for 11th April 2023. Resolved that Cllr Wilson will attend on Tuesday, 11th April 2023.	Cllr Wilson
25.	To agree the date of next meeting Tuesday, 2nd May 2023 at 7.30pm. Agreed	
26.	Close. The meeting closed at 10:02 pm.	

Signed:

Chairman..... Date:

Please see the clerk for a copy of the signed minutes.

Please note Minute Point 20 (e): Note change to Payments: NCALC issued incorrect invoice for £1,004.94 Gross.

New invoice received from NCALC (after the 03/04/2023 Meeting) for £997.82 Gross, £53.20 VAT, £944.62 Net of VAT. Note change to Bank reconciliation: £67,595.33 (as incorrect cheque was not issued). Correct version of NCALC invoice authorised at Blisworth Parish Council Meeting on 02/05/2023.

Noted on Minutes of Blisworth Parish Council Meeting on 02/05/2023.